

Application No. 10/041,119
Amendment dated July 2, 2004
Reply to Office Action of March 4, 2004

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (cancelled)

Claim 2 (previously presented): The debridement extension of Claim 5, wherein said irrigation cannula comprises an inner cannula and said suction cannula comprises an outer cannula surrounding said inner cannula.

Claim 3 (previously presented): The debridement extension of Claim 5, wherein said debridement tip further includes a plurality of suction apertures in fluid communication with said suction path and the exterior of said debridement tip.

Claim 4 (previously presented): The debridement extension of Claim 5, wherein said debridement tip is tapered from a proximal end thereof to a distal end thereof.

Claim 5 (currently amended): A debridement extension having a proximal end and a distal end, the proximal end being adapted for connection to an irrigation source and a suction source, the debridement extension comprising:

- a fitting adjacent the proximal end, the fitting including an irrigation port and a suction port;

- an irrigation cannula attached to said fitting in fluid communication with said irrigation port, said irrigation cannula defining an irrigation path from said proximal end of the debridement extension to the distal end of the debridement extension;

- a suction cannula attached to said fitting in fluid communication with said suction port, said suction cannula defining a suction path from the proximal end of the debridement extension to the distal end of the debridement extension; and

- a debridement tip affixed to said distal end of said debridement extension, wherein said debridement tip is not rotatable relative to said debridement extension, said debridement tip in

fluid communication with both said irrigation path and said suction path, said debridement tip having a plurality of irrigation apertures in fluid communication with said irrigation path, said irrigation apertures spaced about the periphery of said debridement tip, whereby an amount of irrigation fluid in said irrigation path traverses said irrigation apertures and exits the debridement tip, said debridement tip including a plurality of external longitudinal flutes.

Claim 6 (currently amended): A debridement extension having a proximal end and a distal end, the proximal end being adapted for connection to an irrigation source and a suction source, the debridement extension comprising:

a fitting adjacent the proximal end, the fitting including an irrigation port and a suction port;

an irrigation cannula attached to said fitting in fluid communication with said irrigation port, said irrigation cannula defining an irrigation path from said proximal end of the debridement extension to the distal end of the debridement extension;

a suction cannula attached to said fitting in fluid communication with said suction port, said suction cannula defining a suction path from the proximal end of the debridement extension to the distal end of the debridement extension; and

a debridement tip affixed to said distal end of said debridement extension, wherein said debridement tip is not rotatable relative to said debridement extension, said debridement tip in fluid communication with both said irrigation path and said suction path, said debridement tip having a plurality of irrigation apertures in fluid communication with said irrigation path, said irrigation apertures spaced about the periphery of said debridement tip, whereby an amount of irrigation fluid in said irrigation path traverses said irrigation apertures and exits the debridement tip, said debridement tip including a plurality of external longitudinal flutes, wherein each of said longitudinal flutes is in fluid communication with at least one of said plurality of suction apertures.

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Claim 7 (previously presented): The debridement extension of Claim 5, further comprising an axial irrigation aperture positioned on a distal end of said debridement tip.

Claim 8 (previously presented): The debridement extension of Claim 5, wherein said plurality of irrigation apertures are spaced about the periphery of said debridement tip in ninety degree intervals.

Claim 9 (original): The debridement extension of Claim 3, wherein said plurality of suction apertures are spaced about the periphery of said debridement tip in ninety degree intervals.

Claim 10 (cancelled)

Claim 11 (previously presented): The debridement extension of Claim 14, wherein said irrigation cannula comprises an inner cannula and said suction cannula comprises an outer cannula surrounding said inner cannula.

Claim 12 (previously presented): The debridement extension of Claim 14, wherein said debridement tip further includes an irrigation chamber in fluid communication with said irrigation path and having a plurality of irrigation apertures in fluid communication with and spaced about the periphery of said irrigation chamber, whereby an amount of irrigation fluid in said irrigation chamber traverses said irrigation apertures and exits the debridement tip.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The debridement extension of Claim 14, wherein said debridement tip is tapered from a proximal end thereof to a distal end thereof.

Claim 14 (currently amended): A debridement extension having a proximal end and a distal end, the proximal end being adapted for connection to an irrigation source and a suction source, the debridement extension comprising:

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a fitting adjacent the proximal end, the fitting including an irrigation port and a suction port;

an irrigation cannula attached to said fitting in fluid communication with said irrigation port, said irrigation cannula defining an irrigation path from said proximal end of said debridement extension to said distal end of said debridement extension;

a suction cannula attached to said fitting in fluid communication with said suction port, said suction cannula defining a suction path from the proximal end of the debridement extension to the distal end of the debridement extension; and

a debridement tip affixed to said distal end of said debridement extension, wherein said debridement tip is not rotatable relative to said debridement extension, said debridement tip in fluid communication with both said irrigation path and said suction path, said debridement tip having a plurality of suction apertures in fluid communication with said suction path, and the exterior of said debridement tip, said suction apertures spaced about the periphery of said debridement tip, said debridement tip including a plurality of external longitudinal flutes.

Claim 15 (original): The debridement extension of Claim 14, wherein each of said longitudinal flutes is in fluid communication with at least one of said plurality of suction apertures.

Claim 16 (currently amended): A debridement extension having a proximal end and a distal end, the proximal end being adapted for connection to an irrigation source and a suction source, the debridement extension comprising:

a fitting adjacent the proximal end, the fitting including an irrigation port and a suction port;

an irrigation cannula attached to said fitting in fluid communication with said irrigation port, said irrigation cannula defining an irrigation path from said proximal end of the debridement extension to the distal end of the debridement extension;

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a suction cannula attached to said fitting in fluid communication with said suction port, said suction cannula defining a suction path from the proximal end of the debridement extension to the distal end of the debridement extension; and

a debridement tip affixed to said distal end of said debridement extension, wherein said debridement tip is not rotatable relative to said debridement extension, said debridement tip in fluid communication with both said irrigation path and said suction path, said debridement tip having a plurality of irrigation apertures in fluid communication with said irrigation path, whereby an amount of irrigation in said irrigation path traverses said irrigation apertures and exits the debridement tip, said debridement tip further having a plurality of suction apertures in fluid communication with said suction path and the exterior of said debridement tip, said debridement tip having a plurality of external longitudinal flutes.

Claim 17 (original): The debridement extension of Claim 16, wherein said irrigation cannula comprises an inner cannula and said suction cannula comprises an outer cannula surrounding said inner cannula.

Claim 18 (currently amended): A debridement extension having a proximal end and a distal end, the proximal end being adapted for connection to an irrigation source and a suction source, the debridement extension comprising:

a fitting adjacent the proximal end, the fitting including an irrigation port and a suction port;

an irrigation cannula attached to said fitting in fluid communication with said irrigation port, said irrigation cannula defining an irrigation path from said proximal end of the debridement extension to the distal end of the debridement extension;

a suction cannula attached to said fitting in fluid communication with said suction port, said suction cannula defining a suction path from the proximal end of the debridement extension to the distal end of the debridement extension; and

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a debridement tip affixed to said distal end of said debridement extension, wherein said debridement tip is not rotatable relative to said debridement extension, said debridement tip in fluid communication with both said irrigation path and said suction path, said debridement tip having a plurality of irrigation apertures in fluid communication with said irrigation path, said irrigation apertures spaced about the periphery of said debridement tip in ninety degree intervals, whereby an amount of irrigation fluid in said irrigation path traverses said irrigation apertures and exits the debridement tip.

Claim 19 (previously presented): The debridement extension of Claim 18, wherein said irrigation cannula comprises an inner cannula and said suction cannula comprises an outer cannula surrounding said inner cannula.

Claim 20 (currently amended): A debridement extension having a proximal end and a distal end, the proximal end being adapted for connection to an irrigation source and a suction source, the debridement extension comprising:

a fitting adjacent the proximal end, the fitting including an irrigation port and a suction port;

an irrigation cannula attached to said fitting in fluid communication with said irrigation port, said irrigation cannula defining an irrigation path from said proximal end of said debridement extension to said distal end of said debridement extension;

a suction cannula attached to said fitting in fluid communication with said suction port, said suction cannula defining a suction path from the proximal end of the debridement extension to the distal end of the debridement extension; and

a debridement tip affixed to said distal end of said debridement extension, wherein said debridement tip is not rotatable relative to said debridement extension, said debridement tip in fluid communication with both said irrigation path and said suction path, said debridement tip having a plurality of suction apertures in fluid communication with said suction path, and the

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exterior of said debridement tip, said suction apertures spaced about the periphery of said debridement tip in ninety degree intervals.

Claim 21 (previously presented): The debridement extension of Claim 20, wherein said irrigation cannula comprises an inner cannula and said suction cannula comprises an outer cannula surrounding said inner cannula.